



England's South Coast

8 night driver-guided tour



Customisable itinerary
Luxury vehicles
Private driver-guide

LUXURY VACATIONS UK

SINCE 2002



The ultimate tour of Southern England, visit the UNESCO World Heritage Sites along the Jurassic Coast. This 100-mile section is spectacular, with activities that also include fossil hunting. Enjoy cliff top walks, see stunning beaches and tour inland to see lesser-known castles and gardens.

Britain has a longer coastline than France and Spain combined. Therefore it is not surprising to learn that vast stretches of shoreline is of international importance. Your journey begins with the world's first seaside resort of Brighton, Sussex and continues to Devon and Cornwall. We will organize hiking, sailing, and water-sports in this region of geological delights.

You will be looked after from the very start to the last moment you leave our shores. This eight-night suggested tour can be customized to match personal interests, the pace of travel, and style of hotel.

Day 1

Arrival at Heathrow, transfer to Sussex via Brighton

Brighton, London by the sea – Fancy dipping into a lively, exotic and eccentric metropolitan lifestyle? Theatres, cinemas, galleries, and festivals all on the doorstep in Brighton as well as fantastic pubs and restaurants! Brighton is a cocktail of the old and new and compliments a dynamic tour of the South of England.

Enjoy exploring the petit shopping streets known as 'The Lanes'. The narrow and odd street pattern was a legacy of the past when the area was the hub of a fishing village. Independent shops are the dominant force in the Lanes and include diamond merchants, bakers, antique dealers, and fashion stores – all with a Brightonian flavour.

Tour the Royal Pavilion, acclaimed as one of Europe's most exotic royal residences. The domes of the building represent the style of Islamic temple architecture. The interior, on the other hand, is more 'Chinoiserie', which is the name given to a South-East Asian decorating style in the 19th century. It is a palace designed for evening pleasure, soft lighting, music, and food, and lots of it. The Brighton Pavilion is genuinely unique, and you will be very much surprised, pleasantly we hope.

Overnight: South Lodge, Sussex.





Day 2

Arundel Castle and the South Downs National Park

See the quaint villages of **Amberley** with thatched cottages and ancient castle, set in the beautiful Sussex Downs National Park, entirely off the tourist trail. On the edge of the town stands the mighty ramparts of Amberley Castle, once a summer palace for the Bishops of Chichester, now a fabulous hotel.

Alternatively to stopping at Amberley, visit a winery instead and taste Southern England's new luxury export, fine English sparkling wine.

Arundel Castle dominates the small riverside town below, this vast, stone, hill-top castle, surrounded by medieval crenellated walls, was first built by the Norman conquerors. Your guide will show you around this private family home, featuring an excellent collection of paintings, furniture and the amazing Baron's Hall. Hear the tales of the infamous Dukes of Norfolk of the past and tour the State Apartments. In the castle grounds is the parish church of St Nicholas. This small Fitzalan chapel built to house the tombs of the Fitzalan family, the Earls of Arundel. It is a rare example of a place of worship with two worship areas, Catholic and Anglican. By the way, the chapel has its delightful white garden.

In recent years the **Collector Earl's Garden** has been recreated. This investment in the construction of the garden has been a great success. The area was a kitchen garden and used as a car park until the 1970s. The garden pays homage to the 14th Earl of Arundel, an art collector. There are waterworks, vineyard, classical architecture, fruit gardens and large seasonal displays.

Overnight: Chewton Glen, Hampshire.





Day 3

The Jurassic Coast World Heritage Site

The **Jurassic Coast** is a natural **World Heritage Site** strewn with fossils and rocks millions of years old. Exploring the coast is a walk-through time. With its relics in the cliffs, you uncover the story of the Earth. The sea has carved the different stones along the Jurassic Coast into bays, beaches, cliffs, stacks, arches and landslides. This marvellous variety in the landscape helps create the natural beauty of the area and makes the Jurassic Coast an inspirational place.

The **New Forest** is a large tract of unenclosed rustic fields and heathland; people have created a living from this unique landscape for a long time. Rights of common pasture over a thousand years old are still recognised today. There are around 5,000 wild New Forest Ponies that inhabit the area, and they have done for over 2000 years. The 'New Foresters' have gentle temperaments, have immense strength for their size; they do prefer you to keep a short distance.

Overnight: Bovey Castle, Devon.





Day 4

Dartmoor National Park and Cotehele Garden

Tour the **Dartmoor National Park**; the 'Hound of the Baskervilles' country. Dartmoor is now the least inhabited part of England. See wild Dartmoor Ponies, wooded valleys with quaint thatched cottages and heather-clad moors which glow purple and maroon in the evening sun. Also dotting the landscape are scores of prehistoric remains which have survived due to the durability of granite. Many establishments offer cream teas and warming fires of weary walkers.

Visit **Cotehele**, a magical Tudor house in the Tamar valley. The beautiful gardens draw people from around the World. Magnificent woodland and lush river scenery make Cotehele one of the most delightful spots on the River Tamar. Far from civilization, tucked into its wooded fold in the Cornish countryside, Cotehele has slumbered for 500 years. The romance of the house is enhanced by colourful terraced gardens to the east, leading via a tunnel into a richly planted valley garden.

Other afternoon options include hiking, and activities at Bovey Castle, such as cider making, 4X4 car driving, golf, and spa treatments.

Overnight: Bovey Castle, Devon.



Day 5

The Eden Project and seaside fun

Visit the **Eden Project**. One of the enormous greenhouse 'biomes' at the Eden Project is home to the world's most massive jungle in captivity. The other houses flora from temperate regions of the world, including the Mediterranean and South Africa. The Eden Project seeks to educate by telling the story of plants, people and places.

Spend the afternoon on the beach; there is an endless number of water sports to enjoy Cornwall's coastline, some are better for surfing, others Kitesurfing or paddle-boarding, the choice is yours.

Overnight: The Rick Stein Collection, Padstow, Cornwall.





Day 6

St Ives and fishing villages

Drive the coastal road to the Cornish seaside port of **St Ives** with a beautiful harbour and bustling atmosphere. St Ives is a fishing village busy with artists studios and art lovers exploring a labyrinth of cobbled pathways to find that piece of work perfect for the bare wall at home. Relax and enjoy browsing the galleries and craft shops.

Enjoy lunch by the harbour, the town has super restaurants. We will make all the arrangement if required.

St Michael's Mount is a granite crag just offshore from the town of Marazion. Low tide reveals a human-made causeway which links the mainland to the mount.

The option can be to explore the mount and castle or visit the tiny fishing village of Mousehole. Another option is to have our driver-guide find you a quiet, secret beach to relax, paddle, eat ice cream with strawberries. We wouldn't like to sway you either way, but this is our favourite option.

Overnight: The Rick Stein Collection, Padstow, Cornwall.





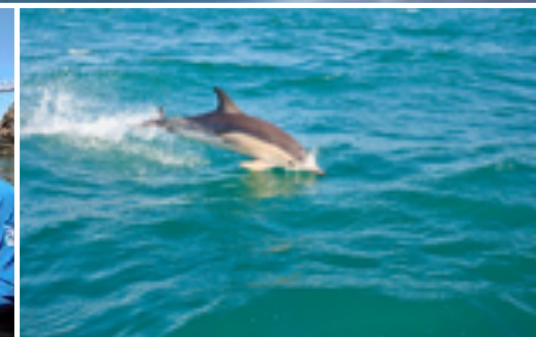
Day 7

Sea safari, King Arthurs Castle and Rocky Valley

Set high on the rugged North Cornwall Coast, visit King's Arthur's Castle at **Tintagel**. Learn about the myths and legends which are associated with **King Arthur**. Britain is home to the largest colonies of **Grey Seals** and vast numbers of migrating sea birds; you will get as close as you possibly can. There is a chance to see Dolphin, Basking Sharks (second largest shark in the world) and giant Sunfish. You may get airborne while riding on the high-speed rib along the wild Atlantic coast.

Plunge into a rocky gorge-like valley (Rocky Valley) and follow a tumbling stream to the sea. The stream starts its journey 820 ft above sea level; it cuts its way through fields before tumbling dramatically through a series of falls. See the strange labyrinths patterns carved into the rock face, their origins are a mystery.

Overnight: The Rick Stein Collection, Padstow, Cornwall.



Day 8

Rural Somerset, pub lunch, and Stourhead Gardens

Stop in rural Devon for a classic pub lunch before heading east to Somerset. Enjoy seeing the unusual and quirky place names signs, such as Velvet bottom, Butts Batch, and Tinker's Bubble, to name only a few.

Stourhead Gardens is the most awe-inspiring and remarkable landscaped gardens in Europe. The garden was begun in the 1740s by Henry Hoare, who inherited the estate and transformed it into a breathtaking work of art. Your driver-guide will take you to the Temple of Apollo, overlooking the entire 18th Century garden. Tunnels lead to an artificial cave with a pool and a life-size statue of the guardian of the River Stour. Stop by and see the Grotto, made of volcanic rock with a lookout to the lake.

Stop briefly at **Avebury Stone Circle**, a Neolithic stone circle; thought to be dedicated to life, death and fertility.

We suggest you extended your trip and stay in the historic city of Bath.

Overnight: Stoke Park or Cliveden, Berkshire.



Day 8

Chauffeur-driven transfer from Stoke Park to London Heathrow

Your chauffeur will be with you 15 minutes before you need to depart. He or she will assist with luggage and listen for any final requests.



"I just wanted to take a moment to say thank you for all your help in making our trip to London a "once in a lifetime" trip. The itinerary was superb and the accommodations were perfect. I would not change a single thing."

ORIHIL, T.





Hotels, restaurants and
travel information



Guest Houses and historic places



Guesthouses and B&B's have come a long way in the past 20 years. High-end bedding, luxurious surroundings, and refined touches are now much more common.

You get a massive bang for your buck with this category of accommodation. Stay in a private castle, gatehouse, folly, fort, lighthouse or historic country cottage is the way the British enjoy Britain. Be surrounded by glorious countryside, walking distance to a genuine village pub, and be intrigued by living if but for a short time somewhere special.

Castles & Manor House Hotels



There's nothing quite like arriving at an authentic medieval castle or manor house and knowing you are staying the night. Every portrait, grand staircase and corridor has a tale to tell.

Each chamber will be unique, have quirks and exciting features. This style of hotel will have historic landscaped grounds, gardens, and produce grown onsite. Some have golf courses and other leisure facilities such as spas.



Town House & Boutique Hotels



Location, location, location, your traditional townhouse hotel will be centrally situated right in town. Walk out the door and be surrounded by shops, cafes, restaurants and historical landmarks.

The boutique versions of these town centre locations will have a contemporary feel with designer bars and lounges. There is a choice of out of town boutique hotels too.

Contemporary & Designer Hotels



Cutting edge design with elegance, setting new standards of luxury. Contemporary British hotels embody comfort, style and tech. Britain's designer hotels are just that.

Every last detail created for that place to stay and that place only. Door handles, keyholes, wine glasses and spa have seamless themes and motifs, generating the feeling of being inside a work of art.

Classic & Britain's finest Hotels



Start and end your day in a refined and grand hotel with the best service. Known as Britain's finest Hotels, enjoy the grandeur, history, architecture along with high-end facilities.

The Classic British, five-star hotel, has world-class restaurants, up to date spas, and beautifully designed golf courses. These hotels will have manicured gardens and extensive grounds to explore. Rooms tend to have antiques and valuable works of art.

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Additional Information



Virtuoso on-site | Visit Britain Partner | European Tour Operator Association Member | UK-Inbound Member



We look forward to seeing you soon!